

**Council on Postsecondary Education
November 7, 2005**

**2006-08 Budget Recommendation
Special Initiatives/Pass-Through Programs**

Special Initiative Funding Program

The Commonwealth of Kentucky's postsecondary education funding approach provides institutions an opportunity to submit requests for special and meritorious initiatives not funded through base budgets, capital requests, or the incentive trust funds. This past July, the Council approved the 2006-08 Special Initiative Funding Request Guidelines and Evaluation Criteria that were used to evaluate 28 institutional requests. Based on that evaluation, the staff recommends eight programs to advance statewide reform, totaling \$500,000 in 2006-07 and an additional \$4.3 million in 2007-08.

| <i>Special Initiative</i> | <i>FY 2006-07</i> | <i>FY 2007-08</i> |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Commonwealth Center for Instructional Technology and Learning (EKU) | | \$500,000 |
| Kentucky Early College (MoSU, KCTCS) | | 100,000 |
| Improved Student Services at Regional Campuses (MoSU) | | 300,000 |
| 2+2 Middle School Math and Science Teacher Preparation Program (MuSU) | | 200,000 |
| Academic Transformation (NKU) | | 300,000 |
| Kentucky Academy of Math and Science (WKU) | \$500,000 | 1,500,000 |
| University Center of the Mountains (KCTCS) | | 900,000 |
| Kentucky School of Craft (KCTCS) | | 500,000 |
| TOTAL | \$500,000 | \$4,300,000 |

Commonwealth Center for Instructional Technology and Learning. This center, housed at EKU, will create a Web-based delivery system that provides a wide range of evidence-based PK-12 instructional interventions, curricular and instructional strategies, as well as Web-based advisors to Kentucky's teachers. The staff recommends that the Council request \$500,000 of recurring funds in 2007-08 to support the center.

Kentucky Early College. This is a collaborative project among MoSU, KCTCS (Big Sandy CTC), and the Pike County Board of Education. It entails establishing an Early College at Pike County Central High School that will allow participating students to earn up to two years of college credit while in high school. The project also includes distance learning for teacher professional development. The staff recommends that the Council request \$100,000 of recurring funds in 2007-08 to support the Early College.

Improved Student Services at Regional Campuses. This initiative will allow MoSU to appoint experienced student counselors at each of its five regional campuses. Currently these campuses do not have sufficient staffing to counsel students in financial aid or study skills or to provide other key student services. The staff recommends that the Council request \$300,000 of recurring funds in 2007-08 to support this project.

2+2 Middle School Math and Science Teacher Preparation Program. This program will support MoSU efforts to increase the number of certified teachers in critical shortage areas (i.e., middle-school math and science) by enhancing 2+2 baccalaureate program offerings in Henderson, Hopkinsville, Madisonville, and Paducah. Program funding will be used to hire full-time assistant professors to teach math and science portions of program curricula. This program will afford nontraditional students the opportunity to complete baccalaureate degrees in their local communities and will enhance collaboration between the university, public schools, and community colleges in the region. The staff recommends that the Council request \$200,000 of recurring funds in 2007-08 to support the Teacher Preparation Program.

Academic Transformation. This program supports a universitywide initiative aimed at transforming the ways in which courses are designed and taught at NKU. The purposes of the program are to reduce costs, expand capacity, and improve student learning and success. The staff recommends that the Council request \$300,000 of recurring funds in 2007-08 to support academic transformation at NKU.

Kentucky Academy of Math and Science. The academy is a residential, early-admissions program for high school-aged Kentucky students who are high achievers, interested in mathematics and science. Its mission is to allow young people who are gifted in math and science to continue learning at challenging levels and to help meet the Commonwealth's need for leadership in STEM careers. The staff recommends that the Council request \$500,000 of recurring funds in 2006-07 and an additional \$1,500,000 of recurring funds in 2007-08 to support the academy.

University Center of the Mountains. The University Center of the Mountains gives citizens of southeast Kentucky direct access to a public four-year education. The absence of a conveniently located university has limited access in this region to bachelor's and master's degrees. The staff recommends that the Council request \$900,000 of recurring funds in 2007-08 to support the University Center of the Mountains.

Kentucky School of Craft. The School of Craft is a regional community collaboration and partnership that will provide training for various craft skills, which is a critical component of the economic development plan of Hindman and Knott County. The staff recommends that the Council request \$500,000 of recurring funds in 2007-08 to support the Kentucky School of Craft.

Council Initiatives/Pass-Through Programs

The Council on Postsecondary Education has been designated as the receiving agency for several programs and activities with appropriations ultimately intended for postsecondary education institutions, other state agencies, or independent organizations. These initiatives are monitored by the Council, while their day-to-day administration is, for the most part, directed by outside entities. For convenience, these programs and activities are grouped under the heading of “pass-through” programs.

The staff recommends that the Council request \$1,660,700 of recurring funds in 2006-07 and an additional \$5,835,500 of recurring funds in 2007-08 for various Council initiatives and pass-through programs, including an Retention/Affordability Initiative, a Commonwealth of Kentucky Principal Leadership Institute, Contract Spaces, the Governor’s Minority Student College Preparation Program, the SREB Doctoral Scholars Program, and the Kentucky Early Math Testing Program.

| <i>CPE Initiative/Pass-Through Program</i> | <i>FY 2006-07</i> | <i>FY 2007-08</i> |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Retention/Affordability Initiative | \$0 | \$4,000,000 |
| Commonwealth of Kentucky Principal Leadership Institute | 500,000 | 1,500,000 |
| Contract Spaces | 586,800 | 335,500 |
| Governor’s Minority Student College Preparation Program | 240,500 | 0 |
| SREB Doctoral Scholars Program | 233,400 | 0 |
| Kentucky Early Math Testing Program | 100,000 | 0 |
| TOTAL | \$1,660,700 | \$5,835,500 |

Retention/Affordability Initiative. This initiative supports public postsecondary institution efforts to address issues related to questions 1, 2, and 3 of the public agenda. Funding is targeted for strategies directed toward low income students and populations. Specific challenges are inherent for those institutions serving low-income populations and, in order to reach the goals of HB 1, additional support is necessary to bolster efforts to enroll, retain, and graduate at risk populations. The staff recommends that the Council request \$4 million of recurring funds in 2007-08 to support this initiative to be distributed as follows:

| <i>Institution</i> | <i>Distribution</i> |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Eastern Kentucky University | \$1,048,600 |
| KCTCS | 260,200 |
| Kentucky State University | 247,100 |
| Morehead State University | 1,008,400 |
| Murray State University | 353,500 |
| Northern Kentucky University | 181,300 |
| University of Kentucky | 177,800 |
| University of Louisville | 197,000 |
| Western Kentucky University | 526,100 |
| TOTAL | \$4,000,000 |

The funds are to be used by the institutions for the following activities:

- Recruitment program enhancements targeted to low income students and specifically to populations in the service regions not represented at average rates at the institution.
- Targeted need-based financial aid packages.
- Partnering programs with adult education programs and high schools especially in targeted counties.
- Increase marketing efforts to raise public awareness of financial aid and scholarships, financial aid workshops targeted to underserved area of the service regions.
- Implement campus-level assessments of student access and affordability using matriculation and persistence surveys.

Commonwealth of Kentucky Principal Leadership Institute. This is a collaborative enterprise among Kentucky universities that have education leadership programs to improve K-12 student learning by providing specialized training to the next generation of public school principals. Anticipated program benefits include increased student achievement, reduced achievement gaps, and higher graduation rates. Program funds will be used for program planning and design, salaries and benefits for institute personnel, and participant costs. The staff recommends that the Council request \$500,000 of recurring funds in 2006-07 and an additional \$1.5 million in 2007-08 to support the Principal Leadership Institute. The Council staff will issue a Request for Proposal to determine the governance, curricula, and organization of the institute.

Contract Spaces. The Commonwealth of Kentucky does not have professional schools in veterinary medicine or optometry. The purpose of the contract spaces program is to provide Kentucky students with access to specialized training at professional programs in other states through contracts with SREB and Indiana University. A fixed number of entering spaces for Kentucky students is reserved, and students selected to enroll in these programs are required to pay only the equivalent of in-state tuition at the host institution. To reserve these spaces and help defray costs, the Commonwealth pays a contract fee per space to each participating institution. The staff recommends that the Council request \$586,800 of recurring funds in 2006-07 and an additional \$335,500 of recurring funds in 2007-08 to replace restricted funds that were used to fully fund veterinary medicine and optometry contract spaces in 2005-06 (i.e., \$282,400 of the amount requested in 2006-07) and to fund tuition rate increases at host institutions, while maintaining current levels of participation for Kentucky students (i.e., \$304,400 in 2006-07 and \$335,500 in 2007-08).

Governor's Minority Student College Preparation Program. This program was established in 1988 to pursue several objectives: (a) provide academic enrichment activities for middle- and high-school minority students; (b) encourage these students to stay in school and enter college; (c) make young African Americans aware of the benefits of college and make them more likely to consider college as an achievable option; and (d) prepare these students to be successful in college-level work. The program emphasizes early intervention at the high-school level to increase the pool of minorities interested in attending and prepared to do well in college. Preparation activities include: (a) academic enrichment classes in English, math, and computer science; (b) field trips to colleges and universities to familiarize students with the collegiate environment; (c) counseling, tutoring, and test-taking experiences to help students overcome academic deficiencies; and (d) intensive on-campus summer experiences. The staff recommends that the Council request \$240,500 of recurring funds for this program in 2006-07, to replace nonrecurring sources of funding used in 2005-06 (i.e., \$105,500 of the amount requested in 2006-07) and to support each program at a minimum operating level of \$20,000 (i.e., \$135,000 of the amount requested in 2006-07).

SREB Doctoral Scholars Program. This program is a cooperative, interstate venture that encourages minority students to enroll in and complete doctoral degree programs. Its principal aim is to increase the number of minority individuals employed as college faculty and administrators by increasing the available pool of minority-candidate, doctoral degree completers. Students are provided scholarships and other financial support to attend institutions throughout the southern United States and in some mid-western states, as well. The staff recommends that the Council request \$233,400 of recurring funds for the SREB Doctoral Scholars Program in 2006-07 to replace nonrecurring sources of funding used in 2005-06 (i.e., \$188,400 of the amount requested in 2006-07) and to cover cost increases for students already in the program, going from \$17,000 to \$20,000 each per year (i.e., \$45,000 of the amount requested in 2006-07).

Kentucky Early Math Testing Program. This program supports a statewide online diagnostic test to help high school students identify academic deficiencies that they should correct before entering college to avoid the need for postsecondary remediation. Administered by Northern Kentucky University with online capacity through the University of Kentucky, it is offered each fall and spring to all Kentucky high school students free of charge and on a voluntary basis. The program is nationally recognized and other states are using its test structure, content, and online features as models. The staff recommends that the Council request \$100,000 of recurring funds for the Kentucky Early Math Testing Program in 2006-07, to replace non-recurring sources of funding used in 2005-06 (i.e., \$50,000 of the amount requested in 2006-07) and to expand the program to serve more students (i.e., \$50,000 of the amount requested in 2006-07).